



# **Policies for 2025**

Adopted by the Delegates  
at the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Boise, Idaho  
December 2024



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# BASIC PRINCIPLES

## Purpose of Farm Bureau

Farm Bureau is a non-governmental, voluntary organization governed by and representing farm and ranch families. Farm Bureau is united in analyzing problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity, and environmental awareness thereby promoting the national well-being.

Farm Bureau is local, statewide, national, and international in its scope and influence, and is non-partisan, non-sectarian, and non-secretive.

## Farm Bureau Beliefs and Philosophy

America's unparalleled progress is based on the freedom and dignity of the individual, sustained by basic moral and religious concepts. Freedom to the individual versus concentration of power, which would destroy freedom, is central in all societies.

We believe that a strong and viable agricultural industry is one of the essential cornerstones of our national security. Agriculture cannot be diminished as a foundational element of society. Economic progress, cultural advancement, and ethical and religious principles flourish best when people are free, responsible individuals. Free will over force is consistent with maintaining liberty. We should never sacrifice individual freedom and opportunity in attempts for guaranteed "security."

## The Constitution

We support the Constitution as the supreme law of the land. Changes should be made only through constitutional amendments, not by federal policy or regulation.

We believe in the representative form of government, which is a republic. The Constitution provides governmental limits, equal opportunity, freedom to worship as choice dictates, and freedom of speech, press, and peaceful assembly.

We oppose the centralization of power worldwide into a one-world government.

## Private Property

We believe that America's system of private ownership of property and the means of production has been, and is, one of the prominent keystones of

1 our republic. This element of our economic system  
2 and the personal rights attendant to private property,  
3 including grazing rights on federal land allotments  
4 and water rights, which is a property right, must be  
5 maintained and protected. We believe in the power  
6 of the elected constitutional sheriff to protect our  
7 rights of property and liberty as protected in the  
8 Constitution of the United States of America.

9 Ownership of property and property rights are  
10 among the human rights essential to preserving  
11 individual freedom.  
12

### 13 **State's Rights and Sovereignty**

14 We support the protection and defense of states'  
15 rights and state sovereignty over all powers not  
16 otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal  
17 government as specified in the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment to  
18 the Constitution.

19 The federal government must respect state laws  
20 and state agencies. All lands within the boundaries  
21 of Idaho, excluding those lands as authorized by the  
22 U.S. Constitution and ceded to the federal  
23 government by the Idaho Legislature, shall be  
24 subject solely to the laws and jurisdiction of the  
25 state.  
26

### 27 **Religious Life**

28 Our nation was founded on spiritual faith and  
29 belief in God. Whereas the Constitution of the United  
30 States was founded on moral and Judeo-Christian  
31 religious principles, moral, ethical, and traditional  
32 family values should get support and consideration  
33 in the public schools.

34 We support the retention of the following:

- 35 1. "So Help Me God" in official oaths;
- 36 2. The phrase "In God We Trust" on our coin;
- 37 3. The fourth verse of the "Star Spangled Banner;"  
38 and
- 39 4. The phrase "Under God" in the Pledge of  
40 Allegiance.

### 41 **Family Values**

42 We believe God has ordained the family as the  
43 foundational institution of human society.

44 We believe the definition of marriage is a union  
45 between one man and one woman.

46 We believe in the sanctity of human life from  
47 conception until natural death. We must protect the  
48

1 right to life to preserve the rights to liberty and  
2 property.

3

## 4 **Capitalism - Private Competitive Enterprise**

5 We believe in the American capitalistic, private,  
6 competitive enterprise system in which property is  
7 privately owned, privately managed, operated for  
8 profit, individual satisfaction, and responsible  
9 stewardship.

10 We believe individuals have the right to choose  
11 their occupation and receive the rewards for their  
12 contribution to society. Individuals have the right to  
13 save, invest, spend, and convey their earnings to  
14 their heirs.

15 We believe in a competitive business  
16 environment in which supply and demand are the  
17 primary determinants of market prices.

18

## 19 **Education**

20 We believe that agricultural education is critical  
21 in creating and maintaining a strong and viable  
22 agricultural industry.

23 We believe education starts with the parent or  
24 guardian and is extended to the schools as a  
25 cooperative partnership.

26 We believe parents have the right to choose  
27 how best to direct the upbringing and education of  
28 their children.

29

## 30 **Political Parties**

31 Strong, responsive political parties are essential  
32 to the United States system of elective government.

33 We encourage Farm Bureau members to  
34 support the political party of their choice.

35 We believe that government should not be  
36 involved directly in the political process but should  
37 lay down certain rules to assure fair and proper  
38 elections.

# IFBF POLICIES



# 1 COMMODITIES

## 3 1. Agrichemicals/Pesticides

### 4 We support:

- 5 1. Increased research and labeling for minor-use  
6 pesticide registrations;
- 7 2. The labeled use of approved pesticides and/or  
8 related products until conclusive scientific  
9 evidence proves there is an unacceptable risk;  
10 and
- 11 3. Compliance with federally approved label  
12 instructions absolving farmers or commercial  
13 applicators from liability claims of environmental  
14 pollution.

### 15 We oppose:

- 16 1. Establishment of zones of agricultural land in  
17 which any kind of legal application or storage of  
18 agricultural chemicals is curtailed without sound,  
19 scientifically validated evidence to warrant  
20 curtailment; and
- 21 2. Fumigant buffer zone limitations proposed by the  
22 EPA without research giving substantial evidence  
23 that current practices are negatively affecting  
24 bystanders.

## 26 2. Commodity Diseases

### 27 We support:

- 28 1. The quarantine of all sources of the potato wart  
29 virus;
- 30 2. Active research and the dissemination of  
31 information to all interested parties related to  
32 rhizomania and urge that any imposed  
33 restrictions be based on scientific data;
- 34 3. A federal and state PCN (Pale Cyst Nematode)  
35 program that is based on good science,  
36 stakeholder participation, and minimal impact to  
37 grower operations; and
- 38 4. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture doing  
39 all within its power to prohibit the importation of  
40 Anthracnose virus into Idaho.

## 42 3. Commodity Commissions

43 We support having commodity commissions in  
44 Idaho.

### 45 We support commodity commissions having:

- 46 1. Self-governing status with no political influence;
- 47 2. Boards solely elected by the growers/producers;
- 48 3. Uniform provisions to run referendums;

- 1 4. Commissioner districts representing even areas
- 2 of production;
- 3 5. The right for legal entities to cast votes in
- 4 elections;
- 5 6. Nominations held for a month-long period
- 6 followed by a month-long voting period so that all
- 7 growers can be represented and participate; and
- 8 7. Uniform provision for refunds for all or a portion of
- 9 the commodity tax.

#### 11 **4. Commodity Sales**

##### 12 **We support:**

- 13 1. The expansion of Idaho agricultural markets,
- 14 domestic and foreign. We also support trade
- 15 missions abroad to better inform our producers
- 16 and the hosting of foreign delegations to our state
- 17 in efforts to increase our market share; and
- 18 2. Amending the Idaho Pure Seed Law to fully
- 19 disclose the contents of all seed lots by requiring
- 20 the tag or label to list each plant species therein
- 21 by name and rate of occurrence.

##### 22 **We oppose:**

- 23 1. Double discounts by grain dealers.

#### 25 **5. Environmental Studies**

26 We recommend that any individual or group  
27 doing environmental studies be held accountable for  
28 claims or assertions of damage by agricultural  
29 practices to the environment. Claims or assertions  
30 should be treated with skepticism until they have  
31 been subjected to critical peer review and tested by  
32 practical application.

#### 34 **6. Field Testing Biotechnology Products**

35 We support effective field testing of new  
36 biotechnology products to promote commercial use  
37 of products that will benefit agriculture and the  
38 general public.

39 We support scientifically accurate consumer  
40 education about the safety and benefits of  
41 genetically engineered crops.

42 We oppose any law or regulation requiring  
43 registration of agriculture producers who use or sell  
44 biotech-based products or commodities.

45 We oppose any law or regulation requiring  
46 registration or labeling of agricultural products  
47 containing GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms).

1 We oppose attempts to restrict or prohibit  
2 planting of biotechnology crops on either a statewide  
3 or county by county basis.  
4

## 5 **7. Food Safety/Government Accountability**

6 We believe a government agency making public  
7 health decisions that result in product recalls,  
8 product seizures, or destruction of perishable goods  
9 must be held accountable when such decisions  
10 prove inaccurate. Such agencies must be required  
11 to compensate or indemnify individuals and  
12 companies for the monetary losses that occur  
13 because of poor or inaccurate regulatory decisions.

14 We support laws and regulations that exempt  
15 farmers and ranchers from liability from food  
16 contamination when best practices or food safety  
17 programs have been followed and no gross  
18 negligence has been shown.  
19

## 20 **8. Lien Law**

21 We oppose any attempt to alter the system of  
22 centralized filing or first-in-time, first-in-right system  
23 of lien priorities, either in revised UCC Article 9, or  
24 any other legislation.

25 We oppose delivered feed being encumbered by  
26 a blanket lien from a financial institution until the  
27 grower/supplier is paid in full.  
28

## 29 **9. Seed Indemnity Fund**

30 We support aligning the financial reporting  
31 requirements for the Seed Indemnity Fund and the  
32 Commodity Indemnity Fund.  
33

## 34 **LIVESTOCK**

### 35 **10. Animal Care**

#### 36 **We support:**

- 37 1. The rights of owners and producers to raise their  
38 animals in accordance with commonly accepted  
39 animal husbandry practices;
- 40 2. The role of a licensed veterinarian in the care of  
41 animals and support current licensing standards  
42 for veterinarians; and
- 43 3. Research on new technologies as new diseases  
44 present threats to animal health and food  
45 security.  
46

1 **We oppose:**

- 2 1. Any legislation, regulatory action, or funding,  
3 whether private or public, that interferes with  
4 commonly accepted animal husbandry practices  
5 and livestock harvesting;  
6 2. Legislation that would give any non-regulatory  
7 organizations the right to establish standards for  
8 the raising, marketing, handling, feeding,  
9 housing, or transportation of livestock and  
10 production animals and any legislation pertaining  
11 to livestock care that would pay bounties to  
12 complainants;  
13 3. Any livestock and production animal care  
14 legislation that would impose a stricter penalty  
15 than the 2016 law;  
16 4. The creation of an Idaho livestock care standards  
17 board;  
18 5. Requiring a licensed veterinarian for docking,  
19 dehorning, castration, pregnancy checking,  
20 embryo transfer, and any other routine livestock  
21 healthcare management practices; and  
22 6. Legislation that would ban the use of federally  
23 approved MRNA vaccines in livestock.  
24

25 **11. Animal ID**

26 **We support:**

- 27 1. Procedures and/or equipment for an animal ID  
28 program that makes it possible to trace an animal  
29 back to its original location;  
30 2. The right of the owner to choose among the  
31 acceptable methods of identification and to leave  
32 their animals unidentified prior to movement from  
33 the premises of origin;  
34 3. Having the Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
35 determine acceptable methods of identification, in  
36 addition to hot or cold brands, for the state; and  
37 4. The continuation of the Idaho State Brand Board  
38 and reasonable actions that must be taken to keep  
39 it solvent, including adjusting fee caps with the  
40 livestock industries' input and approval and  
41 discretionary adjustments of the fees under the  
42 legislatively set fee caps.

43 **We oppose:**

- 44 1. Mandatory EID tags.  
45

46 **12. Bovine Tuberculosis**

47 We support an ISDA surveillance testing program  
48 for Bovine Tuberculosis and its continued funding.

1 **13. Brucellosis**

2 **We support:**

- 3 1. Regulations requiring the appropriate state and  
4 federal agencies to control and eradicate this  
5 disease in wildlife;  
6 2. The National Park Service eradicating brucellosis  
7 in Yellowstone and Grand Teton Parks;  
8 3. Using the DSA (Designated Surveillance Area)  
9 zones as currently enforced for the testing of  
10 brucellosis to prove brucellosis-free status; and  
11 4. The mandatory vaccination law.

12 **We oppose:**

- 13 1. The establishment of any herds of free roaming  
14 bison outside of Yellowstone National Park.

15  
16 **14. CAFO Regulations**

17 **We support:**

- 18 1. Efforts by all livestock associations to create  
19 MOUs with the appropriate state and federal  
20 agencies; and  
21 2. Matters pertaining to CAFO regulation other than  
22 siting should be under the jurisdiction of the state.

23  
24 **15. Data Confidentiality**

25 We support the confidentiality of data collected  
26 on all agricultural operations. Only final reports or  
27 conclusions should be made a matter of public  
28 record. No data collected from individual operations  
29 should be made public.

30  
31 **16. Domestic Cervidae**

32 We support the right of domestic cervidae  
33 owners to breed, raise, harvest, and market all  
34 members of the cervidae family indigenous to Idaho  
35 that can be legally acquired.

36  
37 **17. Equine**

38 We support the continued classification of  
39 equines as marketable livestock and oppose any  
40 efforts to classify them as pets or companion  
41 animals.

42 We oppose any attempt to eliminate the right of  
43 the equine owner or BLM to the minimal stress  
44 slaughter of their equine for consumption or any  
45 other purpose.

## 18. Foot and Mouth/BSE disease

### We Support:

1. Stringent controls to protect Idaho's livestock industry from foot and mouth disease and BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy); and
2. Allowing entities to voluntarily test all slaughtered animals for BSE in order to ship products to countries that require individual tests.

### We Oppose:

1. Importation of live cattle over 30 months of age until sound science proves this does not threaten to spread BSE to the United States.

## 19. Law Enforcement Training

### We support:

1. Law enforcement officers being trained in open range laws, proper livestock herding techniques, and how to properly euthanize livestock as part of the Idaho Peace Officers Standardized Training;
2. Immediate notification by law enforcement or emergency personnel to landowners when fences or property sustain damage due to accidents, or by entrance of emergency personnel;
3. Law enforcement officers being trained in brand identification; and
4. Law enforcement officers being trained to work with the brand inspector and dispatch to identify livestock owners.

## 20. Manure Management

We believe that manure and manure/compost are nutrient-rich residue resources.

### We support:

1. Research on manure management including such areas as odor reduction, waste, and nutrient management; and
2. Programs that educate livestock operators on techniques regarding properly managed organic nutrient systems, especially if implemented with consistent Best Management Practices (BMPs) developed by extension, university, and the livestock industry.

### We oppose:

1. Manure being classified as industrial, solid, or hazardous waste or as raw sewage.

1 **21. Meat Inspectors**

2 **We support:**

- 3 1. State certified meat inspectors for small meat  
4 processing plants;  
5 2. State meat inspection programs in Idaho which  
6 would allow for the intrastate commercial sale of  
7 meat;  
8 3. Having large animal veterinarians and other  
9 interested individuals in rural areas becoming  
10 certified meat inspectors under a state meat  
11 inspection program; and  
12 4. All mobile butchers and processors to require a  
13 trip permit, brand inspection slip or bill of sale on  
14 all bovine animals they receive, and retain those  
15 records for a three-year period to help monitor  
16 theft and illegal taking and processing of animals.  
17

18 **22. State Veterinarian**

19 We support the Animal Health Division of the  
20 Idaho State Department of Agriculture and believe  
21 that it should be administered by a licensed  
22 veterinarian.  
23

24 **WATER**

25  
26 **23. Aquifer Recharge**

27 We support the beneficial use of managed  
28 basin-wide aquifer recharge with the state being  
29 involved with both financial support and  
30 implementation.

31 We support rules, including water rental pool  
32 rules changes, that encourage recharge using  
33 available water to improve aquifer health, protect  
34 Idaho water, and keep water in Idaho.  
35

36 **24. Bureau of Reclamation Reservoirs**

37 Release of water in power head space in Bureau  
38 of Reclamation reservoirs shall be controlled solely  
39 by state water law.  
40

41 **25. Cloud Seeding**

42 We support cloud seeding and encourage  
43 continued investment in its application and research.

44 We support the Legislature and the Idaho Water  
45 Resource Board continuing to study and fund cloud  
46 seeding efforts.

## 26. Comprehensive State Water Plan

### We support:

1. The Governor appointing individuals to the Idaho Water Resource Board who will protect the water resources of the State;
2. Requiring legislative approval before establishing minimum stream flow, instream flow, reconnect permits, river basin plans, and state water plans;
3. Amending the Idaho Constitution, Article XV Water Rights Section 7, State Water Resource Agency to read, "That any change shall become effective only by approval of the legislature.";
4. Legislative approval for water agreements made between the state and federal government;
5. The state working with water users to find meaningful long-term solutions to water supply challenges that maximizes, preserves, and creates sustainable water supplies for farms, ranches, and supporting industries;
6. State funded research to improve and better understand state aquifers; and
7. Managing Idaho's water resources to meet the irrigation needs of senior water users while keeping as much farmland in production agriculture as possible.

### We oppose:

1. Minimum stream flows until sufficient storage facilities are built to supply priority needs first.

## 27. Dams

### We support:

1. The rebuilding of the Teton Dam and building additional dams to improve the water situation in Idaho;
2. The Northwest Power Planning Council focusing its efforts on issues that will provide the region with its current and future power needs;
3. The construction, improvement, and increased size of storage facilities that provide beneficial multiple uses of Idaho's water;
4. Municipalities, federal agencies, and tribes advocating for and funding additional storage projects to help meet the increasing demand for water, and avoid taking irrigation water from agricultural purposes;
5. The continued existence and current usage of all dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers. We



1 oppose any efforts to destroy or decrease  
2 production of those dams;

- 3 **6.** The Bureau of Reclamation working with water  
4 users (i.e., water districts, irrigation companies,  
5 etc.) to discuss opportunities to contract any  
6 available storage space in the state's reservoir  
7 systems; and  
8 **7.** Uncontracted storage space in Bureau of  
9 Reclamation reservoirs being made available to  
10 in-basin water organizations (i.e., water districts,  
11 irrigation companies, etc.) prior to out-of-basin  
12 parties.

## 13 **28. Domestic Wells**

### 14 **We Support:**

- 15 **1.** Idaho water law first-in-time, first-in-right, being  
16 applied to all wells drilled in Idaho, including  
17 domestic wells;  
18 **2.** Evaluating domestic wells by county under Idaho  
19 water law for new wells in the future which would  
20 require developers to supply irrigation water  
21 and/or irrigation water delivery systems using  
22 existing water rights and/or gray water to new  
23 developments;  
24 **3.** The Department of Water Resources enforcing  
25 the domestic well exemption restrictions on one  
26 half acre homesteads not to exceed 13,000  
27 gallons of water used per day; and  
28 **4.** Negotiations amongst stakeholders to reform the  
29 domestic exemption under Idaho water law.  
30  
31

## 32 **29. Flood Control**

33 We support additional storage facilities,  
34 increased recharge, and federal land transfers to  
35 state ownership to control future flooding.  
36

## 37 **30. Ground Water Districts**

38 We support changing the boundaries of local  
39 groundwater districts that are directly connected to  
40 the underground aquifer to include those who are  
41 not currently participating but are of a common  
42 ground water source.

43 We oppose any diminishment of authority of  
44 local water districts or groundwater districts through  
45 creation of a Groundwater Management Area.

1 **31. International Water Agreements**

2 We support the renewal of the Columbia River  
3 Treaty with Canada in such a manner as to maintain  
4 its original focus upon flood control and power  
5 generation.  
6

7 **32. Irrigation District Fees**

8 We support legislation for irrigation districts to  
9 levy development-related fees to reduce burdens on  
10 existing patrons.  
11

12 **33. Moratorium**

13 We support the current Idaho Department of  
14 Water Resources moratoriums on critical  
15 groundwater development.  
16

17 **34. Outstanding Resource Waters**

18 We support the Basin Advisory Groups (BAGs)  
19 and Watershed Advisory Groups (WAGs) process as  
20 it pertains to Outstanding Resource Waters (ORWs).

21 We oppose nominations of ORWs by parties  
22 other than BAGs and WAGs.  
23

24 **35. Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)**

25 We support mandating Idaho's Department of  
26 Environmental Quality to conduct an Economic  
27 Impact Analysis of an area's businesses (including  
28 the agri-business and agricultural operations of that  
29 area) before initiating a TMDL process for that  
30 geographic area. The analysis shall be provided to  
31 the Watershed Advisory Group before consideration  
32 is given to develop and implement a TMDL. A copy  
33 of the analysis shall also be provided to the germane  
34 committees of the Idaho Legislature.  
35

36 **36. Transfer of Water Rights**

37 We believe all water in Idaho should be used  
38 beneficially. In the event the BOR or IDWR desires  
39 use of water they would have to negotiate on a  
40 yearly basis for rental-pool water in accordance with  
41 state water law.

42 **We support:**

- 43 1. Re-evaluation of the need for flow augmentation  
44 on the grounds that the science does not support  
45 any biological benefit; and  
46 2. IDWR automatically transferring stock water rights  
47 from any federal agency to the allotment  
48 permittee.

1 **We oppose:**

- 2 1. The transfer of water rights to the Bureau of  
3 Reclamation (BOR);  
4 2. The taking of water for fish flushing. Water held by  
5 the Idaho Water Resource Board will be held and  
6 used for purposes intended and in accordance  
7 with state law; and  
8 3. Out-of-basin transfers of irrigation water from  
9 lands enrolled in the federal cropland set-aside  
10 program for use on lands that have not  
11 historically been used for agricultural  
12 development.

13  
14 **37. Waste Management**

15 We oppose mandatory agricultural waste  
16 management facility construction without scientific  
17 proof of environmental pollution on an individual  
18 basis.

19  
20 **38. Water Conservation**

21 We support voluntary conservation of water use  
22 by updating irrigation systems. Conservation should  
23 not adversely affect the full use of an irrigation water  
24 right.

25 We support legislation and rulemaking that will  
26 protect the full use of an irrigation water right.

27 We support the implementation of alternative  
28 technology for the improvement of water efficiency  
29 and storage.

30  
31 **39. Water Quality**

32 **We support:**

- 33 1. The continued management of water quality, both  
34 underground and surface, by utilizing “Best  
35 Management Practices” (BMPs) as contained in  
36 USDA’s “Natural Resource Conservation  
37 Services Field Office Technical Guide” and  
38 Idaho’s “Forest Practices Act.” Changes in these  
39 BMPs should be based only on scientifically  
40 monitored data rather than “best professional  
41 judgement”;  
42 2. The development of BMPs for recreational uses;  
43 and  
44 3. The efforts of canal and irrigation districts to halt  
45 unwanted drainage into their water systems.

46 **We oppose:**

- 47 1. The DEQ having the authority to arbitrarily impose  
48 penalties on landowners without first identifying

1 the problem and giving the landowner an  
2 opportunity to correct the problem. If there is a  
3 difference of opinion concerning the extent of the  
4 problem, a reasonable and cost-effective appeal  
5 process of the DEQ decision should be available  
6 to the landowner; and

- 7 **2.** Levying fees associated with State NPDES  
8 programs implementation, operation, and permit  
9 issuance on agriculture and aquaculture  
10 producers.

## 11 **40. Water Quality Standards**

12 Water quality standards must be site specific  
13 and realistically achievable for each water body.

## 14 **41. Water Quality Trading**

15 We support the concept of water quality trading.

## 16 **42. Water Rights**

### 17 **We support:**

- 18
- 19 **1.** State ownership and control of Idaho water held in  
20 trust for the residents of the State of Idaho, and  
21 will oppose any policy, program, or regulation,  
22 including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
23 (FERC) relicensing, which would infringe on this  
24 right;
  - 25 **2.** Defining local public interest, under water right  
26 law, to give priority to beneficial uses and  
27 agricultural viability, with local vested interest and  
28 use, a priority;
  - 29 **3.** Sanctions upon any party making frivolous claims  
30 against water right applications;
  - 31 **4.** Permittees on federal land being recognized and  
32 acknowledged as the owners of stock water  
33 rights in their allotments as their livestock provide  
34 beneficial use under state law and the water  
35 rights are an appurtenance of the private base  
36 property;
  - 37 **5.** Requiring that minimum stream flows not  
38 jeopardize water rights and are being financed by  
39 the benefit recipients;
  - 40 **6.** The continued wise development of all Idaho's  
41 rivers and their tributaries as working rivers;
  - 42 **7.** First in time, first in right, and state control of  
43 water issues within appropriate Idaho agencies  
44 without federal regulatory or legislative  
45 intervention;
  - 46 **8.** The privatization of Idaho irrigation canal systems;
  - 47
  - 48

- 1 9. The protection of canal and drain ditch easements  
2 from arbitrarily being taken over by cities,  
3 counties, state, federal or private developers or  
4 private landowners and developed into green  
5 belts or bike paths;
- 6 10. The concept of conjunctive-use management  
7 when scientific evidence is available to support  
8 such management;
- 9 11. Efforts by local groundwater districts to provide  
10 supplemental or water bank water to senior  
11 surface water users to prevent curtailment of  
12 junior water rights. Irrigation districts shall have  
13 no net loss of irrigated acres due to growth and  
14 development;
- 15 12. Idaho water law that denies considering flood  
16 control releases as a beneficial use; and
- 17 13. The right to have independent hearing officers in  
18 contested water cases.

19 **We oppose:**

- 20 1. The Idaho Department of Water Resources  
21 accepting any further applications for water rights  
22 on surface stream water of the state that has  
23 been over-decreed and adjudicated. Adequate  
24 water for domestic and agricultural purposes  
25 should have priority over other uses when the  
26 water of any natural stream is insufficient, as per  
27 Article 15, Section 3 of the Idaho Constitution;
- 28 2. Changing the historical beneficial use of water  
29 rights when that change will have a negative  
30 impact on other water right holders;
- 31 3. The federal government changing the historic  
32 priorities and uses of water storage reservoirs;
- 33 4. Any diminishment of storage fill rights due to flood  
34 control or other discharge prior to season use  
35 including efforts by any entity that would count  
36 flood control releases against the storage rights  
37 of water right holders;
- 38 5. Any federal agencies' use of priority dates, in  
39 regard to water rights, that are not in accordance  
40 with Idaho Water Law;
- 41 6. The adoption of source water protection  
42 plans/ordinances by local government that create  
43 land use policies prohibiting generally accepted  
44 farming and animal agriculture  
45 practices/activities;
- 46 7. Native American tribes and urban interface areas  
47 requiring/requesting water right encroachment  
48 permits on existing water right licenses and/or  
49 permits;

- 1 **8.** Agreements between water groups that neglect
- 2 the first in time, first in right and treat senior,
- 3 junior, trust, and expansion rights near-equal; and
- 4 **9.** The five-year averages that were used to
- 5 determine the quantity of water that is allowed to
- 6 be pumped by a user in the future.
- 7

### 8 **43. Water Rights Mitigation**

9 We support the state purchasing and holding  
10 water rights for the purpose of mitigation, so water  
11 trade may benefit aquifer recharge and groundwater  
12 conservation.

## 13 **LAND USE**

### 14 **44. Government Land Designations**

15 We oppose any infringement upon private  
16 property rights through any designation of land by  
17 any government entity, including highway scenic  
18 byways/corridors, National Heritage Areas, National  
19 Monuments, and National Parks. We oppose any  
20 change to federal or state land designation when  
21 there is the potential to harm agriculture.

22 We oppose Craters of the Moon becoming a  
23 national park.

### 24 **45. Government Land Transactions**

#### 25 **We support:**

- 26 **1.** No net loss of private property;
- 27 **2.** Enactment of legislation to require prior legislative  
28 approval for any state land acquisition on a parcel-  
29 by-parcel basis;
- 30 **3.** Amending the Idaho Constitution to require any  
31 land purchased by the Federal Government be  
32 approved by the state legislature;
- 33 **4.** Prohibiting the sale of state land to the federal  
34 government or agencies of the federal  
35 government, except for the purpose of building  
36 federal facilities or structures;
- 37 **5.** When isolated land-locked or uneconomical  
38 federal land is to be sold, the current grazing  
39 permit holder must have the first right of refusal. If  
40 there is no permit holder, the adjacent landowner  
41 should be given the first right of refusal based on  
42 appraised value;
- 43 **6.** When federal land is sold, traded, or exchanged,  
44 all holders of grazing preference must be fairly  
45 compensated;
- 46
- 47
- 48

- 1 7. Requiring any entity which acquires property from  
2 the federal government, to compensate grazing  
3 preference holders on the former federally  
4 administered lands for the loss of their property  
5 rights if that entity does not continue to maintain  
6 and protect those rights;
- 7 8. The enactment of legislation to ensure that none  
8 of the valid existing private rights are lost in any  
9 land exchange between Idaho and the federal  
10 government or in the transfer of federal lands to  
11 Idaho;
- 12 9. Amending the Idaho Constitution to mandate that  
13 any federal land conveyed to the state in any  
14 manner from the date of the passage will be  
15 managed from multiple use and sustained yield;  
16 that all valid existing rights will be honored; and  
17 allow for the sale of the isolated, landlocked, and  
18 uneconomical parcels with the first right of refusal  
19 going to the adjoining landowner(s) at fair  
20 appraised value; and
- 21 10. No net loss of tax base with all land exchanges  
22 and sales. Tax obligations must stay with the  
23 property.

24 **We oppose:**

- 25 1. Any land exchanges involving publicly owned land  
26 unless there is strong local support; and
- 27 2. The State purchasing private property for  
28 investment purposes.

30 **46. Government-Managed Lands**

31 **We support:**

- 32 1. Multiple-use management of federal and state  
33 lands with protection of the traditional rights of  
34 use;
- 35 2. A study of the Payment In Lieu of Taxes formula  
36 to determine if it is meeting its purpose and is  
37 equitable in its distribution of funds;
- 38 3. The equal-footing doctrine and insist on the  
39 passage of legislation to establish a deadline for  
40 complete transfer of public land back to state  
41 jurisdiction and management;
- 42 4. The Idaho Legislature joining with other states in  
43 the West, in an interstate compact, with respect  
44 to the transfer of public lands;
- 45 5. The timely salvage of burnt, diseased, or dead  
46 timber from federal lands;
- 47 6. Legislation that would promote harvest of trees  
48 and forage on federal and state land to help  
49 prevent and control wildfire;

- 1 7. The use of land-use management plans by county  
2 governments to encourage state and federal  
3 agencies to coordinate and protect the land within  
4 their tax base;
- 5 8. The legislature and the governor asserting their  
6 authority and taking all necessary measures to  
7 protect the citizens and counties of the State of  
8 Idaho from federal agency overreach; and
- 9 9. The release of federal, state, and local  
10 government held lands for public development  
11 with compensation to permittees for all private  
12 property rights that exist on those lands.

## 13 **47. Grazing**

14 We believe grazing to be an effective tool in  
15 maintaining sustainable rangeland, forests,  
16 improving watersheds, wildlife habitat, reduction of  
17 wildfire potential, and supporting ranchers and rural  
18 community economies.

### 19 **We support:**

- 20 1. The protection of grazing on public lands as a  
21 viable economic solution for managing agencies  
22 to reduce fuel loads and minimize costs for  
23 fighting wildfires;
- 24 2. Research on how grazing affects habitat for all  
25 wildlife including sage grouse leks in the  
26 development of BMPs;
- 27 3. The development of rangeland management  
28 plans that use current science-based information.
- 29 4. The development of a certification process  
30 recognized by the land management agencies,  
31 which would allow grazing permit holders to  
32 submit voluntary forage monitoring data to be  
33 used in the creation and development of  
34 rangeland management plans, that would  
35 become a part of the official record and be  
36 included in the permittees' permanent file;
- 37 5. The incorporation of allotment management plans  
38 as allowed in FLPMA 1752 (D), developed in  
39 careful and considered consultation, cooperation,  
40 and coordination with the permittees, lessees,  
41 and landowners involved, district grazing advisory  
42 boards and any state having lands within the area  
43 covered by such allotment management plans;
- 44 6. The Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission,  
45 encouraging producer control and supporting  
46 fees;
- 47



- 1 7. Our local NRCS “Grazing Land Conservation  
2 Initiative” (GLCI) and the “Grassland  
3 Conservation Reserve Program” (GCRP)  
4 programs to preserve and improve the  
5 sustainability and productivity of grazing lands;
- 6 8. The current state grazing fee formula and PRIA  
7 formula concept;
- 8 9. Funding from both federal and state governments  
9 for the operation and research of the U.S. Sheep  
10 Experiment Station in Dubois;
- 11 10. The right to sell or transfer grazing preference  
12 rights, consistent with the qualifications in the  
13 Taylor Grazing Act (43 USCA 315b) and Idaho  
14 code Title 25 Chapter 9;
- 15 11. The new “Outcome Based Grazing  
16 Authorizations” of 2017, the Experimental  
17 Stewardship Program and the Coordinated  
18 Resource Management Program which are  
19 designed to offer a more coordinated approach  
20 between the BLM and permittees when issuing  
21 grazing authorizations for the purpose of  
22 improving management of grazing on public  
23 lands by offering livestock operators greater  
24 flexibility to changing, on-the-ground conditions;
- 25 12. The due process rights of the owners of the  
26 existing grazing permits and allotments being  
27 honored when curtailment or termination of those  
28 allotments are proposed or implemented; and
- 29 13. A minimum grazing usage for all public land  
30 grazing allotments/leases. They shall be grazed  
31 at a minimum of 75% the stocking rate at least  
32 every third year.

33 **We oppose:**

- 34 1. The reduction or curtailment of any grazing  
35 activity for the creation or recognition of wildlife  
36 corridors;
- 37 2. The U.S. Forest Service ruling that will prevent  
38 transferring grazing permits for 25 head or less;
- 39 3. The termination of grazing permits for  
40 administrative errors or omissions of the land  
41 managing agency;
- 42 4. The termination or curtailment of permittees  
43 because of livestock proximity to bighorn sheep,  
44 bison, and sage grouse; and
- 45 5. The purchase or retirement of grazing permits or  
46 allotments by any state or federal agency, group,  
47 or individual whose sole purpose is to not allow  
48 any further grazing.

1 **48. Idaho Forest Practices Act**

2 We support the Idaho Forest Practices Act  
3 except where it infringes on private property rights.

4 We support the consideration of all facets of the  
5 stream ecosystem within the IDL Forest Practices  
6 Act rules, rather than just shade, to better maintain  
7 and enhance fisheries habitat.

8 We oppose The Forest Practices Act  
9 Streamside Retention Rule (Shade Rule) unless  
10 accompanied by fair market appraised value  
11 compensation to landowners for loss of property  
12 rights.

13  
14 **49. Land Surveys**

15 We oppose any changes to the methodology  
16 used to survey property, including irrigatable acres,  
17 in such a way that would negatively impact  
18 agricultural viability.

19  
20 **50. Landfills on BLM Lands**

21 We encourage the development of new, and the  
22 continued use of existing, county landfills on BLM  
23 lands.

24  
25 **51. Mineral Rights**

26 We support legislation that would transfer  
27 government-retained mineral rights to current  
28 landowners (at no expense to the landowners),  
29 where there has been no meaningful mineral activity  
30 for 10 years.

31 We support requiring that property deeds state  
32 the name and address of the person or entity who  
33 owns the mineral rights for each property. If mineral  
34 rights are sold or transferred, the deed should be  
35 updated. The surface owner should be notified and  
36 offered first right of refusal.

37  
38 **52. Mining**

39 We support and encourage the continuation of  
40 mineral extraction in Idaho as long as the  
41 appropriate mine reclamation and environmental  
42 protections are in place and followed.

43 We support an economic use analysis to  
44 analyze the loss of current agricultural uses and  
45 compensation including displacement of use.

46 We support the opening of the proposed  
47 Caldwell Canyon open-pit phosphate mine located  
48 outside of Soda Springs, Idaho.

1 **53. Open Range**

2 We oppose any changes to Idaho open range  
3 laws.  
4

5 **54. Pest Control**

6 We support enforcement of current laws to give  
7 counties authority to spray and control insect  
8 infestations on private land, with the cost of the  
9 spraying to be assessed to the present owner of the  
10 land.

11 We support safe and effective county and state  
12 pest control programs when landowner property  
13 rights are respected, and commodity production is  
14 not adversely affected by the program(s).

15 We support legislation that requires local, state,  
16 and federal governments to manage lands to  
17 prevent spread of noxious weeds and pests from  
18 their lands to adjoining lands, crops, and animals.  
19

20 **55. Regulation of Agricultural Practices**

21 **We support:**

- 22 1. Agricultural practices such as burning, animal-  
23 waste disposal, cultivation, and harvest practices;  
24 2. Agricultural and forestry representation on boards  
25 created in regard to airshed quality programs; and  
26 3. The farmer's right to farm by being able to carry  
27 on sound farming and forestry practices and to be  
28 free from environmental regulations that are not  
29 proportionately beneficial to the implementation  
30 cost.

31 **We oppose:**

- 32 1. Any legislation or regulations that would  
33 segregate any agricultural industry, agricultural  
34 crop, cropping practice or geographical area and  
35 would impose a higher air quality, water quality or  
36 environmental standard than is required of any  
37 other person, entity, industry, or geographical area  
38 within the state;  
39 2. Regulations on agricultural practices that are not  
40 validated by sound peer reviewed scientific  
41 process and supported by scientific fact;  
42 3. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture having  
43 the authority to impose sanctions on livestock  
44 operators without first identifying specific problems  
45 and giving the operators an opportunity to correct  
46 said problems; and

1 4. Efforts to regulate logging slash burning on  
2 private timberlands by the Idaho Department of  
3 Environmental Quality (DEQ).  
4

## 5 56. Right to Farm

6 We support the right-to-farm law.

7 We support local, state, and federal agriculture  
8 exemptions from dust rules.  
9

## 10 57. Riparian Management

11 Proper multiple-use management of riparian  
12 areas is essential. Highly productive areas can be  
13 properly harvested with modern forest or livestock  
14 Best Management Practices (BMPs) and still  
15 improve riparian habitat for all uses.

### 16 We support:

- 17 1. Forage utilization requirements of riparian areas  
18 being managed separate from the entire grazing  
19 allotment; and
- 20 2. The concept that all existing roads along streams  
21 be given grandfather rights approval.  
22

## 23 58. State and County Noxious Weed Control

### 24 We support:

- 25 1. Strong enforcement of Idaho's noxious weed law  
26 by the state and counties, together with  
27 appropriate use of special management-zone  
28 provisions;
- 29 2. Idaho Transportation Department weed control  
30 policies at both state and district levels be required  
31 to be in compliance with the Idaho Noxious Weed  
32 Law each year by controlling all infestations of  
33 noxious weeds in a timely and effective manner  
34 and by controlling noxious weeds on the full width  
35 of all rights of way;
- 36 3. Enforcement of timely and effective noxious weed  
37 control by all railroads on their rights of ways  
38 within the state; and
- 39 4. The addition of *Ventenata dubia* to the Idaho  
40 noxious weed list.

## 41 59. Timber Management

42 We support all efforts by the Department of  
43 Lands to optimize the timber yields and stumpage  
44 prices as mandated by the Idaho Constitution.

45 We oppose actions by the Land Board or  
46 Department of Lands that would inhibit or further  
47 restrict these processes, including, but not limited to,

1 habitat conservation plans and conservation  
2 easements.  
3

## 4 **60. Wilderness and Restrictive Zones**

### 5 **We support:**

- 6 1. The traditional balanced multiple-use practices on  
7 all federal/state lands and that access to existing  
8 wilderness be free and accessible for everyone;  
9 and
- 10 2. Adding adequate fire breaks in existing wilderness  
11 areas.

### 12 **We oppose:**

- 13 1. All dedication of land in Idaho for wilderness and  
14 roadless areas and support the release of lands  
15 currently held in Wilderness Study Areas (WSA)  
16 back to multiple-use management. All lands  
17 designated as non-suitable for wilderness must be  
18 immediately released from WSA status;
- 19 2. Designation of lands in Idaho as biosphere  
20 reserves, corridors, or buffer zones; using the  
21 Lands Legacy Initiative; the Antiquities Act, or  
22 National Monument Declarations by the executive  
23 branch of the government;
- 24 3. Any expansion of the boundaries of the Sawtooth  
25 National Recreation Area (SNRA);
- 26 4. Any reinterpretation of the mandates of the SNRA  
27 which would impose further use restrictions; and
- 28 5. The reduction or curtailment of any grazing or  
29 farming activity for the creation or recognition of  
30 wildlife corridors.  
31

## 32 **61. Wildfire Control**

### 33 **We support:**

- 34 1. Fire-control policy to put out any fire upon arrival  
35 or as soon as safely possible. Local entities (such  
36 as counties, fire districts, and forest or rangeland  
37 protective associations) and private landowners  
38 and individuals being allowed to act as first  
39 responders. When the protection of the health,  
40 safety, and property of the citizens are in jeopardy,  
41 the local protective associations being allowed to  
42 act beyond the first response and initial attack  
43 phase of a fire. Local landowners must be allowed  
44 to protect private property including livestock on  
45 federal and state lands;
- 46 2. Changing state and federal wildfire policy to  
47 require that state and federal fire managers and  
48 incident commanders coordinate with county and  
49 local fire departments and landowners;

- 1 **3.** A provision that state and federal agencies will  
2 allow forest or rangeland protective associations in  
3 neighboring states, that meet the requirements of  
4 their home state, to enter into mutual aid  
5 agreements with forest and rangeland protective  
6 associations across state lines;
- 7 **4.** An increase in management activities, such as  
8 thinning and grazing, to achieve federal agency  
9 goals of reducing the potential for catastrophic  
10 wildfires;
- 11 **5.** A provision that state and federal agencies  
12 maintain a fire break strategically located to  
13 protect private property and to control large  
14 wildfires;
- 15 **6.** An aggressive initial attack and suppression on all  
16 forest and rangeland wildfires on public land and  
17 firefighting suppression activities in addition to fire  
18 management, in order to protect our water basins  
19 and watersheds; and
- 20 **7.** Incentives to forestland owners to produce  
21 commercial forest products from non-saw timber  
22 (firewood, post and pole materials or biomass.)

23 **We oppose:**

- 24 **1.** Landowners being held financially liable for fire  
25 suppression costs except in cases of gross  
26 negligence.  
27

28 **FISH AND WILDLIFE**

29  
30 **62. Animal Damage Control**

31 We support animal damage control programs to  
32 control and manage predators, rodents, and  
33 destructive wildlife.  
34

35 **63. Animal Threat and Public Safety**

36 It shall be the responsibility of U.S. Fish and  
37 Wildlife Services and any state agencies that  
38 manage predatory or proven problem animals to  
39 notify all residences within a five-mile radius using a  
40 9-1-1 reverse calling system of potential conflict in  
41 their area.  
42

43 **64. Endangered Species Act**

44 We believe that modern society cannot continue  
45 to operate on the premise that all species must be  
46 preserved at any cost.

47 We believe basic requirements of human life  
48 have priority over protection of other species,

1 including threatened or endangered (T/E) species. A  
2 thorough consideration of all potential adverse  
3 impacts to human economic and social welfare  
4 should be an integral part of any consideration to list  
5 and T/E species.

6 If lethal action is taken against any threatened or  
7 endangered species for the preservation of public  
8 safety, all investigations should be conducted by the  
9 local officials of the county involved. All applicable  
10 state and government agencies are to be notified so  
11 as to provide assistance when called upon.

12 **We support:**

- 13 1. A revision of the ESA to include a more thorough  
14 consideration of agriculture, mining, logging, and  
15 tree farming in such a manner that these activities  
16 will be sustained and made part of any recovery  
17 plan. Recovery of T/E species should not receive  
18 higher priority than human uses or rights;
- 19 2. Anadromous hatchery fish and wild fish being  
20 treated equally under the ESA. Hatchery fish  
21 should be counted toward recovery of the species;
- 22 3. Eliminating the marking of hatchery fish;
- 23 4. Congress providing depredation funding for  
24 losses or damage resulting from endangered  
25 species and to mandate responsibility to deal with  
26 such losses; and
- 27 5. Bull Trout being delisted and managed through  
28 state management plans.

29 **We oppose:**

- 30 1. Any effort to create a State Endangered Species  
31 Act (ESA) that is more stringent than the federal  
32 ESA;
- 33 2. Road closures and restrictions imposed on land  
34 and water in the name of critical habitat;
- 35 3. Implementation of the endangered species  
36 pesticide labeling program, other than in critical  
37 habitat;
- 38 4. The listing of the Giant Palouse Earthworm  
39 (*Driloleirus americanus*), Greater Sage Grouse  
40 (*Centrocercus urophasianus*), and Slick Spot  
41 Peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*) as  
42 endangered species;
- 43 5. Listing any species before its critical habitat is  
44 identified within its scientifically established  
45 historical range. Habitat site specific assessments  
46 and recovery plans must include comprehensive  
47 protection of private property rights;
- 48 6. Any critical-habitat designation until it has been  
49 established beyond scientific doubt that the

1 species in question is actually present and that  
2 threatened or endangered status is actually  
3 warranted. The data to satisfy the scientific criteria  
4 should meet the guidelines of the Data Quality Act  
5 under federal statutes sections 3504(d)(1) and  
6 3516 of title 44, United States Code. The agency,  
7 organization, or individual requesting the critical-  
8 habitat designation must bear the cost of proving  
9 presence of the species and this must be done  
10 through the use of the best available peer  
11 reviewed science; and

- 12 7. The relocation of an endangered species, or  
13 addition to an endangered species population  
14 without clearance through the Idaho Office of  
15 Species Conservation.

## 17 **65. Fish and Game Department**

### 18 **We support:**

- 19 1. The Fish and Game Department controlling the  
20 concentration of wildlife numbers on all lands and  
21 being prohibited from entering into agreements to  
22 limit access to any area, without approval of the  
23 local governing authority;
- 24 2. Implementing a requirement for non-resident  
25 mentored youth hunts where both the non-resident  
26 mentor and the mentored youth must purchase  
27 matching species tags. Non-resident tags should  
28 cost more than resident tags;
- 29 3. Compensation by IDFG for crop loss due to  
30 depredation shall be for actual loss minus the one-  
31 time deductible and should be expediently paid;
- 32 4. Fish and Game being responsible and pay for  
33 damages caused by management decisions;
- 34 5. Idaho Fish and Game issuing emergency  
35 depredation permits to ag producers and  
36 landowners to harvest animals that are causing  
37 verifiable damage to crops, livestock, and  
38 property. The issuance of these depredation  
39 permits shall be free of conditions that landowners  
40 must allow hunting on their land. Landowners  
41 should be allowed to determine who hunts on their  
42 private property;
- 43 6. The Landowner Appreciation Program (LAP) being  
44 made available to anyone owning 320 acres or  
45 more and recipients of these tags should be free  
46 to do what they wish with the tags;
- 47 7. The creation of landowner preference tags for the  
48 exclusive use of non-resident kindred relations of



- 1 the first or second degree for landowners whose
- 2 property exceeds 160 contiguous acres;
- 3 8. Additional landowner preference tags based on a
- 4 pro rata basis for each additional 640 acres of
- 5 contiguous ownership;
- 6 9. Individuals who draw a LAP tag sitting out the
- 7 following year on the same LAP hunt;
- 8 10. An agricultural representative on the Idaho Fish
- 9 and Game advisory committee on ungulate winter
- 10 feeding; and
- 11 11. Landowner Permission Hunt Vouchers (LPH)
- 12 being used as an extra big game tag.

13 **We oppose:**

- 14 1. The acquisition of additional land by the Fish and
- 15 Game Department;
- 16 2. Any increase in funding for the Idaho Department
- 17 of Fish and Game from license fees without
- 18 showing a specific need or use for the funds;
- 19 3. The erection of either permanent or temporary
- 20 hunting or viewing blinds within 100 feet of a
- 21 developed livestock watering site on public lands;
- 22 4. Idaho Fish and Game abdicating responsibility for
- 23 year after year losses due to depredation impacts
- 24 regardless of other reimbursements;
- 25 5. The feeding of wild ungulates because of the
- 26 consequences to agriculture, municipalities, and
- 27 natural habitat; and
- 28 6. The state of Idaho forfeiting their authority to the
- 29 federal government over wildlife management.

30  
31 **66. Fish and Game – Prior Notification**

32 The Idaho Department of Fish and Game must  
33 have permission from the landowner before entering  
34 private property.

35  
36 **67. Fish Species Population Management**

37 We support alternative scientific applications to  
38 modify fish species populations without affecting  
39 contractual agreements or causing detrimental  
40 effects on flood control, irrigators, recreation, and  
41 economies.

42  
43 **68. Grizzly Bear**

44 **We support:**

- 45 1. The grizzly bear being removed from the
- 46 endangered species list and the transfer of all
- 47 grizzly bear management to Idaho Fish and
- 48 Game;

- 1 2. Requiring the costs associated with grizzlies,  
2 including triple damages for depredation costs, to  
3 be borne by the federal government, and its  
4 agencies such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services;
- 5 3. Paying compensation to state and local agencies  
6 when any assistance in the management, control,  
7 or defense of the public is needed from such  
8 agencies. Compensation to state and local  
9 agencies should be paid regardless of whether a  
10 request has been made by a federal agency for  
11 assistance until such time as the current grizzly  
12 bear policy can be changed to allow less conflict  
13 with humans and livestock; namely the delisting of  
14 the grizzly bear and transfer of management to  
15 individual states' authority;
- 16 4. Requiring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to  
17 coordinate all grizzly bear related activities with  
18 the Idaho Fish and Game and local county  
19 officials;
- 20 5. Enhanced management of grizzly bears, including  
21 relocation from farmsteads, homesteads, and  
22 other public settlements with emphasis on public  
23 notification of problem bears;
- 24 6. Idaho Fish and Game managing grizzly bears with  
25 human safety as the priority; utilizing all tools and  
26 methods available, including removal, aversive  
27 conditioning; and
- 28 7. Euthanizing any known problem bear that has  
29 threatened human safety.

30 **We oppose:**

- 31 1. The reintroduction or release of grizzly bears into  
32 any area of the State of Idaho.

33  
34 **69. IDFG / USF&W Responsibility**

35 **We support:**

- 36 1. Requiring state or federal wildlife personnel to file  
37 an environmental and economic impact statement  
38 before they can release non-native insects or  
39 plants in Idaho or make regulations that affect the  
40 counties and/or the state;
- 41 2. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture's ban  
42 on the release of deleterious exotic animals into  
43 the State of Idaho;
- 44 3. Requiring all state and federal agency personnel  
45 going through the elected county sheriff for all law  
46 enforcement;
- 47 4. The creation of a wildlife management system  
48 where property owners and IDFG cooperatively  
49 manage wildlife and income generated from that

1 management unit be shared between both parties;  
2 and  
3 **5.** Idaho state's sovereign right to manage wildlife on  
4 all its state and private lands to protect private  
5 property and public safety without the need to  
6 receive prior authorization from any federal  
7 agency.

8 **We oppose:**

- 9 **1.** The relocation of wild game and non-game  
10 species without proper notice being given to  
11 residents and property owners in the area where  
12 they are released. Local county officials must  
13 receive official notice at least 30 days prior to any  
14 relocation or release into the wild of any species  
15 raised in captivity;  
16 **2.** Relocation or release into the wild of wolves or  
17 grizzlies that have been raised in captivity; and  
18 **3.** The Idaho Fish and Game Department engaging  
19 in activities that encourage only non-consumptive  
20 uses of fish and wildlife species in Idaho.

21  
22 **70. Introduction of Salmon**

23 We oppose the introduction of salmon above  
24 Brownlee Dam.

25  
26 **71. Invasive Species**

27 We support adequate state funding for  
28 inspections of all water craft and other vessels to  
29 prevent the spread and infestation of any non-native  
30 aquatic species in Idaho waters.

31  
32 **72. Large Carnivores**

33 We support:

- 34 **1.** The right of landowners to protect themselves,  
35 their families, livestock, and properties from all  
36 predators including grizzly bears and wolves  
37 without legal retaliation;  
38 **2.** Establishing a new state depredation fund that  
39 compensates large carnivore (wolf and grizzly)  
40 depredations;  
41 **3.** Adding wolves and grizzly bears to the IDF&G  
42 depredation list so that depredation on livestock  
43 can be paid by the IDF&G Big Game Depredation  
44 and Prevention fund;  
45 **4.** A state of Idaho employee to oversee and  
46 coordinate wolf and grizzly bear management  
47 efforts in Idaho amongst both state and federal  
48 agencies;

- 1 5. Maintaining a state depredation fund that  
2 compensates for large carnivore (wolf and  
3 grizzly) depredations; and
- 4 6. Having committees who have the authority to  
5 help manage the wolves and grizzly bears  
6 throughout the state and give input on  
7 depredation.

### 8 9 **73. Prion Disease**

10 We support the continuing research into Chronic  
11 Wasting Disease and its relation to other prion  
12 diseases and public health.

13 We support the continuing development of a  
14 strategy to deal with this dilemma.

### 15 16 **74. Private Reservoir Companies**

17 Fish and Game Department shall pay private  
18 reservoir companies for the use of that reservoir for  
19 fish habitat. The Department should also pay  
20 upkeep assessments on reservoirs in which they  
21 own water.

### 22 23 **75. Sage Grouse**

24 We support predator control as a method to  
25 increase sage grouse populations. We encourage  
26 the use of bounties to control all non-protected sage  
27 grouse predators.

28 We support grazing on public lands as a primary  
29 method of increasing sage grouse populations by  
30 controlling the amount of vegetation that fuels  
31 wildfires.

32 We support rearing and releasing of sage  
33 grouse.

### 34 35 **76. Salmon Recovery**

36 **We support the following salmon-recovery**  
37 **alternatives:**

- 38 1. Utilizing new hydroelectric turbine technologies to  
39 achieve the goals of increased power production  
40 and reduced hazards to fish;
- 41 2. Privatizing salmon fisheries for increased  
42 numbers and stronger fish. Net barge  
43 transportation as a safer way of transporting smolt  
44 to ocean;
- 45 3. Ocean predator control during the two-year cycle  
46 from smolt to maturity;
- 47 4. Regulating harvest of offshore and instream  
48 salmon;

- 1 5. Improved dam passage of smolt to ocean and  
2 mature salmon's migration back to spawning  
3 grounds; and
- 4 6. The Federal Columbia River Power System as  
5 one of the largest sources of clean, renewable  
6 electricity in the Pacific Northwest.

7 **We Oppose:**

- 8 1. The removal of Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental,  
9 Little Goose, and Lower Granite dams on the  
10 lower Snake River;
- 11 2. The taxpayer funded payments to compensate  
12 entities for lost revenues from dam removal;
- 13 3. The costs associated with the removal of these  
14 four dams;
- 15 4. The loss of Idaho's only seaport in Lewiston  
16 eliminating the most cost-efficient shipping of farm  
17 commodities; and
- 18 5. The power replacement costs paid to a business  
19 that has a mix of solar, wind, nuclear, and  
20 batteries. (Short term fixes with negative long-term  
21 effects)

22  
23 **77. Snake River Basin Snails**

24 We support the delisting of snail species in the  
25 Snake River Basin and the grouping of snail species  
26 based on taxonomic/biological similarities.

27 We oppose the future listing of additional snail  
28 species.

29  
30 **78. Wolves**

31 **We support:**

- 32 1. All methods of wolf control and population  
33 management statewide;
- 34 2. Funding for state agencies tasked with wolf  
35 management and support appropriate  
36 compensation for damages incurred by producers;
- 37 3. Livestock depredations caused by wolves to be  
38 paid out on both confirmed and probable  
39 Wildlife Services classified cases;
- 40 4. Office of Species Conservation applying yearly  
41 through the grant process from USFWS to fund all  
42 wolf depredation costs paid out through their  
43 office;
- 44 5. Requiring when possible, all wolf carcasses to be  
45 presented for testing for communicable diseases,  
46 especially the tapeworm *Echinococcus granulosus*  
47 which causes hydatid disease in livestock, elk,  
48 deer, and humans;

- 1 **6.** The Wolf Depredation Control Board being able to
- 2 enter into agreements with private contractors for
- 3 more efficient means of removing wolves;
- 4 **7.** Property owner's rights in protecting their property
- 5 in a timely manner using any method that has
- 6 proven effective;
- 7 **8.** Looking into other options in the state rather than
- 8 utilizing Wildlife Services (WS) when it comes to
- 9 controlling and inspecting cases pertaining to
- 10 wolves; and
- 11 **9.** The state of Idaho adding financial support to the
- 12 Idaho Wolf Depredation Prevention program.

13 **We oppose:**

- 14 1. Any efforts to relist the wolf as endangered.

15  
16 **EASEMENTS**

17  
18 **79. Conservation / Scenic Easements**

19 We support continuation of conservation  
20 easement agreements and scenic easements or  
21 agreements only if the real property involved  
22 remains on the tax rolls according to use.

23 We oppose the Yellowstone to Yukon  
24 Conservation Initiative (Y2Y).

25  
26 **ENERGY**

27  
28 **80. Affordable Energy**

29 **We support:**

- 30 1. Transparency in how energy monopolies plan to
- 31 incur expenses and make investments that are
- 32 passed on to ratepayers;
- 33 2. A thorough, fair, and publicly involved process for
- 34 evaluating rate requests and setting rates;
- 35 3. Increased focus on removing barriers to widely
- 36 available and affordable sources of energy, such
- 37 as on-site generation; and
- 38 4. Idaho utility companies having an export rate
- 39 established for on-site farm generation.

40  
41 **81. Alternative Energy**

42 **We support:**

- 43 1. The development of cost-effective alternative
- 44 energy as long as it does not negatively impact
- 45 public land grazing;
- 46 2. County control in the siting of these projects;
- 47 3. Sales tax incentives to assist in the development
- 48 of alternative energy projects of less than one

1 megawatt constructed on or by existing agriculture  
2 operations; and  
3 **4.** Alternative energy should not receive subsidies  
4 beyond the bulk market rate. Any such contracts  
5 shall be allowed to expire.

6 **We oppose:**

7 **1.** A broad moratorium on alternative energy  
8 projects.

9

10 **82. Electrical Energy**

11 **1. Hydroelectric Dams:**

12 **We support:**

13 **1.1.** The continued careful use of water as one of  
14 our renewable natural resources through  
15 existing and the construction of new hydro  
16 projects, as future demands for electrical energy  
17 increase;

18 **1.2.** The adaptation of hydro projects to generate  
19 power for sale; and

20 **1.3.** The relicensing of dams, including Hells Canyon  
21 Complex, using a least cost mitigation plan  
22 reflecting the desire for the customers to have a  
23 reliable power source at reasonable rates.

24 **2. Renewables:**

25 **We Support:**

26 **2.1.** Utilities operating in Idaho developing  
27 economically feasible renewable energy  
28 portfolios;

29 **2.2.** The construction of economically feasible power  
30 generation facilities in Idaho, including those that  
31 use plant and/or animal residue or logging slash;

32 **2.3.** An annual true-up for net metering rather than a  
33 monthly true-up;

34 **2.4.** The right of property owners to generate  
35 electricity to partially or fully offset the energy  
36 requirement on their property, limited only by  
37 conditions necessary to protect public health,  
38 safety, service quality, or grid reliability; and

39 **2.5.** The ability of agribusiness to access, evaluate,  
40 and cost-effectively utilize technologies that  
41 enable them to control and reduce energy costs.

42 **3. Regulations:**

43 **We support:**

44 **3.1.** State agencies removing barriers that prevent  
45 utilities from increasing Idaho's power  
46 generation capacity; and

1 **3.2.** Current laws that require coal fired plants be  
2 held to strict standards in the construction,  
3 operation, and retirement of the facility.

4 **We oppose:**

5 **3.1.** Any deregulation, reorganization, merger or  
6 consolidation of power generation or  
7 transmission which could result in loss of water  
8 rights, less service, or increased rates; and

9 **3.2.** The sale of any public utility company operating  
10 in the State of Idaho to an entity either partially  
11 or wholly owned by a foreign government.

12 **4. Transmission:**

13 **We support:**

14 **4.1.** Upgrades in transmission and distribution.  
15 Routing of utility corridors should be placed on  
16 public land first and then to the areas of least  
17 impact to private property owners;

18 **4.2.** The initiation of on and off ramps in  
19 transmission lines within the State of Idaho; and

20 **4.3.** Using utility transmission corridors established  
21 by the county to lessen the impact on private  
22 property owners.

23 **5. PUC Rates:**

24 **We oppose:**

25 **5.1.** Any action by the PUC to move in the direction  
26 of inverted block rates or in any major rate  
27 design revision that would be detrimental to  
28 agriculture.

29  
30 **83. Fossil Fuels**

31 We support the mining and drilling of fossil fuels.

32 We support the legislature ensuring that rules for  
33 oil and natural gas production safeguard the water  
34 aquifers for all citizens and protect property owners'  
35 rights to use their property.

36 If a local government entity bans the  
37 development of mineral rights in its jurisdiction, it  
38 should be considered a property rights "taking" and  
39 compensation should be provided to the property  
40 owner.

41  
42 **84. Nuclear Energy**

43 We support the generation of electricity from  
44 nuclear reactors in meeting our future energy needs  
45 and urge the development of permanent disposal



1 sites for radioactive waste material where it will not  
2 endanger the aquifer in Idaho.

3 We support research and development of further  
4 usage of radioactive waste materials and safer ways  
5 of storage.

6 We support development of nuclear technology  
7 which reduces or eliminates the need for nuclear  
8 waste disposal.

9 We support the Idaho National Laboratory  
10 providing the lead role in advancing the  
11 development of this technology.

### 12 **85. Power Demand Control Program**

13 We support demand control programs as long  
14 as current water rights and power usage contracts  
15 are protected. These programs must remain on a  
16 voluntary basis.

### 17 **86. Renewable Fuels**

18 We encourage all state and local governments  
19 to assist in developing renewable fuel projects in  
20 Idaho.

21 We support the promotion and use of alternative  
22 fuels made from agricultural products, as long as  
23 they are driven by open markets and not  
24 economically supported by mandates and  
25 government subsidies.

26 We support the availability of low-cost fuels,  
27 including off-road bio-fuels, for the operation of  
28 farms and ranches.

### 29 **87. Utility Companies**

30 Utility companies that damage public roads  
31 should be responsible for restoring roadways to their  
32 original state for at least a period of two years.

33 We support utility companies retaining the  
34 liability when underground utility lines are not at the  
35 required depths.

36 We oppose requiring farmers to call dig line in  
37 order to work their fields for planting, cultivation and  
38 harvesting activities, where underground utility lines  
39 exist.

40 If dig line is required to be used in normal  
41 farming cultivation practices, we support the 21-day  
42 time constraint being extended as long as flags and  
43 or markings for underground utilities are left  
44 untouched.

1 LABOR

2  
3 **88. Legal Aid**

4 We oppose state funding of Idaho Legal Aid  
5 Services.

6 **89. Minimum Wage**

7 We oppose any minimum wage within the state  
8 that is higher than the federal minimum wage.  
9

10 **90. Unemployment Insurance**

11 Eligibility requirements should be made realistic  
12 to reflect agriculture's seasonal employment  
13 practices.  
14

15 **91. Workers Compensation**

16 Workers compensation for agricultural  
17 employers should provide:

- 18 1. Cost control measures and fair base rates;
- 19 2. Mediation for agricultural concerns;
- 20 3. Protection from third party lawsuits; and
- 21 4. Employer protection from worker caused injuries  
22 (i.e. drug & alcohol).

23 We support changes in the existing Workers'  
24 Compensation Law that would take into  
25 consideration the employee's responsibility when an  
26 accident occurs.

27 We support having the settlement reduced by  
28 the percentage that was determined that the worker  
29 was responsible.  
30

31 TAX

32  
33 **92. Assessed Value of Ag Production Land**

34 We support ag land being assessed at its actual  
35 use value for taxation purposes.

36 **We support:**

- 37 1. The retention of five-acre minimum productivity  
38 option and the Bare Land & Yield Option for forest  
39 lands; and
- 40 2. Legislation that allows county commissioners to  
41 appeal an assessment change by the Idaho State  
42 Tax Commission for a category of property.

43 **We oppose:**

- 44 1. The State Tax Commission having power to  
45 equalize county property tax assessments.

1 **93. Budget Caps**

2 We support a statewide re-evaluation of the  
3 current three percent property tax budget growth cap  
4 for all taxing districts compared to a population and  
5 resource-based system.

6 We oppose the loosening, removal or alteration  
7 in any way or the granting of an exemption from  
8 limitations and restraints placed by present Idaho  
9 law on units of local government, community  
10 colleges, school districts, etc., in increasing local  
11 property taxes.

12 We oppose the creation of additional tax entities  
13 that could be exempt from such limitations and  
14 restraints.

15  
16 **94. Fuel Tax**

17 We support the refund of tax paid on fuel used  
18 off-road.

19 We support having non-taxed dyed-fuel  
20 available for off-road use.

21 We support an alternative tax for non-  
22 combustion engine vehicles.

23  
24 **95. Funding Local Government and Schools**

25 **We support:**

- 26 1. Reducing the property tax burden to fund public  
27 schools and local government;
- 28 2. Legislation mandating that plant facilities levy  
29 monies can be used only for capital expenditures  
30 related to school operation and maintenance;
- 31 3. The creation of standardized mandatory full  
32 disclosure of the school district's revenues and  
33 expenditures that are related to extracurricular  
34 activities; separated into curriculum and athletics,  
35 and budgeted in standard categories of salaries,  
36 transportation, supplies, and capital expenditures;
- 37 4. Removing the school budget stabilization levy that  
38 was authorized in the 2006 Special Legislative  
39 Session unless it is supported by a local vote; and
- 40 5. Legislation allowing school districts to exclude  
41 agricultural land from any future school bond or  
42 levy elections.

43 **We oppose:**

- 44 1. Judges being allowed to levy taxes;
- 45 2. Indefinite or permanent supplemental school  
46 levies on taxpayers, regardless of the number of  
47 consecutive levies passed; and

1 **3.** School districts carrying over plant facilities levy  
2 funds to finance the construction of new buildings  
3 or the acquisition of additional property.  
4

### 5 **96. Impact Fees**

6 We support local impact fees on new or  
7 expanding developments to pay for the services  
8 required to support growth.

9 We support simplification of current impact fee  
10 rules and procedures.

11 We support schools being included in the  
12 definition of public facilities in order to be eligible to  
13 receive impact fees.  
14

### 15 **97. Investment Tax Credit**

16 We support retention of the current three  
17 percent investment tax credit provisions, or an  
18 increase in the credit.  
19

### 20 **98. Local Option Taxation**

21 We support local option taxation when used  
22 specifically for projects that would have been paid  
23 for with property tax dollars.  
24

### 25 **99. Maximum Levy Rates**

26 We support developing a system to enforce the  
27 existing one percent levy limit law.

28 We oppose raising the maximum statutory levy  
29 rates for any taxing authority.  
30

### 31 **100. Personal Tax Privacy Rights**

32 We oppose the county assessor's office  
33 requiring personal tax information to establish land  
34 use.  
35

### 36 **101. Property Tax**

#### 37 **We support:**

- 38 **1.** Limiting yearly property assessment increases to a  
39 maximum of the state inflation rate;
- 40 **2.** Legislation that would allow county tax  
41 assessments and collection on property that has  
42 been purchased by non-profit groups and placed  
43 in tax exempt status, such as a tax code that  
44 covers environmental tax-exempt classification.
- 45 **3.** Efforts to amend the Idaho Forest Tax Law to  
46 allow forest landowners to designate and maintain  
47 multiple timberland parcels under respective Bare

- 1 Land and Yield (Category 6) or Productivity  
2 (Category 7) classifications;  
3 4. Legislation that would reform the property tax  
4 budget formula which currently allows county  
5 budgets to grow more than twice as fast as  
6 population plus inflation; and  
7 5. Legislation that prevents the taxes of existing  
8 residents to unfairly increase and moves us closer  
9 to growth paying for itself.

10 **We oppose:**

- 11 1. Budget increases and foregone balances that  
12 current Idaho State Law allows for local  
13 governments;  
14 2. Shifting property tax to agricultural real estate; and  
15 3. Local taxing districts shifting the property tax  
16 burden to business, rental property owners, and  
17 farmers when homeowner's exemption is  
18 increased.

19  
20 **102. Property Tax Replacement**

21 We recommend that a fee in lieu of taxes be  
22 assessed on all lands removed from tax rolls by  
23 state or federal agency management. We favor an  
24 annual fee equivalent to local private property tax on  
25 land.

26 When sales tax revenues received by local  
27 taxing districts increase, local property taxes should  
28 be required to be reduced by a lesser amount.

29  
30 **103. Sales Tax**

31 We support legislation that would exempt  
32 nonprofit organizational fund-raising from paying  
33 sales tax on those receipts.

34 We oppose removing the sales tax exemption  
35 on production items.

36  
37 **104. Services Tax**

38 We oppose all tax on services.

39  
40 **105. Special Taxing Districts**

41 We support a requirement that all new taxing  
42 districts must be approved by a 66-2/3% majority  
43 vote of the registered voters within a district.

44 We support giving all taxing districts the option,  
45 to be funded by a household fee rather than through  
46 an ad valorem (property) tax. If a taxing district  
47 chooses the household fee option, those fees must  
48 be subject to the 3% budget increase cap and any

1 bonds they pass must also be paid through  
2 household fees.

3 We support a 10-year sunset on all special  
4 taxing districts, after which they would require re-  
5 authorization by the voters to continue.  
6

## 7 **106. State Budget**

### 8 **We support:**

- 9 1. Zero-based budgeting;
- 10 2. A constitutional amendment limiting state  
11 spending to a calculation determined by  
12 population growth and economic growth of the  
13 state;
- 14 3. Limiting growth of state personnel on the public  
15 payroll to the rate of population growth;
- 16 4. Requiring any reduction in county income  
17 resulting from tax exemptions granted by the  
18 state to be replaced by appropriations of  
19 sufficient funds to offset the revenue lost; and
- 20 5. Limiting the growth of state expenditures at or  
21 below the percentage of economic growth in the  
22 state.

### 23 **We oppose:**

- 24 1. Balancing budget shortfalls by any tax increase.  
25

## 26 **107. Super Majority**

27 We support retaining the 66-2/3% majority vote  
28 as required in the Idaho State Constitution for bond  
29 levies.

30 We oppose circumventing the required two-  
31 thirds majority by creative financing options.

32 We support requiring taxing districts to wait at  
33 least 11 months before running a failed bond  
34 measure again.  
35

## 36 **108. Urban Renewal Districts**

37 We support the repeal of urban renewal laws.  
38

## 39 **LOCAL AFFAIRS**

### 40 **109. County Commissioners**

41 We encourage county commissioners to develop  
42 a Natural Resource Plan that clearly states the  
43 objectives and policies of the county in regard to  
44 management of the natural resources located on  
45 public lands in their county.  
46

47 We encourage county commissioners to invoke  
48 the “coordination mandate” of Congress set forth in

1 federal statutes with the public land management  
2 agencies plans and actions that may negatively  
3 impact the county's economy, culture, and heritage.

4 We support the formation of a formal NRAC  
5 (Natural Resources Advisory Committee) within  
6 each county.

7 We support county commissioners being elected  
8 by the voters who live in the district which they  
9 represent.

## 11 **110. Elections**

### 12 **We support:**

- 13 1. Allowing Idaho residents who own real property in  
14 a taxing district to vote on any tax proposal in that  
15 district;
- 16 2. Consolidation of all elections, including school  
17 bonds/levies to the May and November elections;
- 18 3. A mandatory pre-registration requirement to be  
19 eligible to vote in all local bond elections;
- 20 4. The voters of counties in the state of Idaho  
21 approving the pay raises that the county elected  
22 officials receive on the May primary ballot. The  
23 raises would have to be a dollar amount not a  
24 percentage. The raises would go into effect the  
25 following October when the county budgets for the  
26 next year start;
- 27 5. Changing the number of members of the Idaho  
28 Redistricting Commission to 7 with the majority on  
29 the commission reflecting the current partisan  
30 makeup of the legislature;
- 31 6. Absentee ballots with verification of identity and  
32 signatures; and
- 33 7. Moving Idaho's legislative candidate filing  
34 deadline to be at least two months earlier.

## 36 **111. Emergency Response Fees**

37 We oppose the imposition of response fees for  
38 emergency services that are funded through taxes.

## 40 **112. Public Hearings**

41 Public hearings that affect a given area of the  
42 state must be held in the area that is affected, at a  
43 reasonable time and date for those impacted.

## 45 **113. Zoning**

46 County commissioners should control all zoning  
47 in the county. Zoning should be site specific within  
48 the county.

1 We oppose the use of blanket zoning  
2 ordinances, including sustainable development and  
3 smart-growth initiatives.

4 We recognize and encourage the use of  
5 planning tools allowed under state law to encourage  
6 planned and orderly growth in or near agricultural  
7 areas.

## 8 9 EDUCATION

### 10 11 **114. Ag in the Classroom**

12 We support Ag in the Classroom in school  
13 curriculum to increase student literacy of agriculture.

### 14 15 **115. Career Technical Education**

16 We support enhanced funding for Idaho's career  
17 & technical education, agricultural science, and  
18 technology courses and programs.

19 We support that each high school in the state be  
20 awarded one teacher FTE earmarked only for CTE,  
21 but to not supplant any current teacher FTE that has  
22 been used for CTE.

### 23 24 **116. Knowledge of Constitution**

25 We support requiring students graduating from  
26 Idaho schools to have a thorough understanding of  
27 the Constitution and the form of government that it  
28 gives us in accordance with the original intent of the  
29 founders.

### 30 31 **117. Local Control of Education**

32 We encourage the State Board of Education  
33 and the Idaho Legislature to refuse federal funds  
34 aimed at promoting control of educational programs  
35 in public schools by the federal government.

36 We support local school boards maintaining  
37 control and policy over dress standards, personal  
38 conduct standards, curriculum, and traditional  
39 gender roles.

40 We oppose the gathering of personal  
41 information of students that is not related to their  
42 academic education without parental consent.

### 43 44 **118. Veterinary Students**

45 We support efforts to incentivize vet students  
46 studying large production animal medicine to  
47 practice in Idaho.



1 STATE AFFAIRS

2  
3 **119. Agricultural Research and Extension**

4 We request the legislature examine the role of  
5 the University of Idaho as the land grant college and  
6 take steps to ensure the university honors its  
7 commitment as our agricultural research facility.

8 We recommend that extension activities assist  
9 farm programs on a first-priority basis, including the  
10 integrated Farm Management Program.

11 County agents should be first and foremost  
12 county agricultural agents.

13 **We support:**

- 14 1. The University of Idaho Agricultural Research and  
15 Extension Service;
- 16 2. Any products developed by any research facility  
17 utilizing state funds for research should be made  
18 available to Idaho citizens royalty-free;
- 19 3. Expanded research and education in all crop  
20 areas relative to Idaho. This must also include new  
21 and improved plant and animal varieties along with  
22 effective insect, pest, disease and weed controls;
- 23 4. An informational exchange and cooperative effort  
24 within the contiguous area in ag-chemical  
25 registration and research as well as plant/animal  
26 variety improvement research. Every effort should  
27 be made by state and county officials and the  
28 University of Idaho to retain an agricultural  
29 extension agent in each county as an extension  
30 service of our land grant university. Strong  
31 pressure must be exerted to revitalize and improve  
32 the agricultural information and education  
33 programs;
- 34 5. The hiring of new extension educators in the  
35 College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with  
36 primary training and experience in commercial  
37 agriculture and forestry; and
- 38 6. Full funding, from both federal and state  
39 governments, for operations and research at the  
40 current U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, including  
41 continuous research on the effects of grazing and  
42 sage grouse habitat, and the relationship between  
43 wildfire and grazing.

44  
45 **120. ATV Safety**

46 We oppose the creation of a mandatory class or  
47 special license for the ability to ride an ATV on  
48 private or public land.

1 **121. Auction Company Bonding**

2 We support legislation that would require  
3 licensing and bonding of commercial auction  
4 companies.

5  
6 **122. Audits**

7 We support a more affordable way to comply  
8 with the Idaho Transparency Act when an audit is  
9 required.

10  
11 **123. Ballot Initiative**

12 We support requiring all ballot initiatives to  
13 collect signatures from 6% of registered voters from  
14 two-thirds of all legislative districts.

15 We support all ballot initiatives requiring a two-  
16 thirds majority vote to pass.

17 We support legislation that will prohibit drug  
18 legalization by citizen initiatives.

19 We oppose taxes being levied through the  
20 initiative process.

21  
22 **124. Citizen Legislature**

23 We support the Idaho Legislature remaining a  
24 citizen legislature and the session should only run  
25 from approximately the first Monday in January till  
26 the last Friday in March. All special sessions should  
27 be limited to 20 days.

28  
29 **125. Constitutional Defense Fund**

30 We support adding another leadership position  
31 to the existing four-member council when voting on  
32 the distribution of Constitutional Defense Funds.

33  
34 **126. County Fairs**

35 **We support:**

- 36 1. The review and revision of all fair related state  
37 statutes to better reflect current year-round  
38 fairgrounds operations;
- 39 2. Public hearings and an advisory vote of the  
40 county if county commissioners wish to move a  
41 county fairgrounds to a different location, or if  
42 county commissioners wish to change how a  
43 county fairgrounds is managed; and
- 44 3. Changing the state statute (Idaho code 22-202A)  
45 to increase the current 200,000 county population  
46 threshold to 500,000 based on the U.S. census or  
47 do away with 22-202A completely.

1 **127. Cross Deputization**

2 We believe that cross deputization of county  
3 sheriffs and any tribal law enforcement officers  
4 should be voluntary.  
5

6 **128. Definition of Agricultural Buildings**

7 We support changes to Idaho Code to define  
8 agricultural buildings as follows:

- 9 **1.** They are buildings where agricultural products are  
10 stored, housed, or grown;  
11 **2.** They are buildings where agricultural equipment,  
12 including licensed vehicles that are used in the  
13 production of agriculture can be fixed, repaired, or  
14 stored;  
15 **3.** They are buildings that are used for the normal  
16 servicing of an agricultural business; and  
17 **4.** They can be used by employees as a place of  
18 employment as well as a place to have meals and  
19 take bathroom breaks as required by GAP (Good  
20 Agricultural Practices).

21 We support the agricultural building permit  
22 exemption and would support an Idaho Code  
23 amendment that expressly defines the term  
24 “agricultural building,” as defined by the International  
25 Building Code and to include agricultural equipment  
26 maintenance, to ensure that it is applied more  
27 consistently throughout all counties in Idaho.  
28

29 **129. Driver’s Privilege Card**

30 We support legislation granting driving privileges  
31 to all persons residing in Idaho who pass the  
32 required traffic and driving testing, pay the required  
33 licensing fees, and provide proof of automobile  
34 insurance. We support this type of legislation only if  
35 driving privilege cards cannot be used as a form of  
36 identification.  
37

38 **130. Environmental Social Governance**

39 We oppose the unsolicited and undefined use of  
40 ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) scores to  
41 evaluate individuals, corporations, or institutions.  
42

43 **131. Executive Branch MOU/MOA**

44 We oppose actions by the governor entering into  
45 Memorandums of Understanding or Memorandums  
46 of Agreement without legislative oversight and  
47 approval.

1 **132. Falsifying Reports**

2 Knowingly filing a false report and/or complaint  
3 to any agency shall be considered a misdemeanor  
4 and the perpetrator should be required to pay  
5 damages and/or expenses to the individual that was  
6 falsely accused as well as the investigating agency.  
7

8 **133. Farm to Consumer Direct Sales**

9 We support legislation and policy that promotes  
10 and protects direct farm to consumer sales of locally  
11 grown agricultural products.

12 We support small farm businesses and  
13 consumer access to food grown on small farms.

14 We support the reduction of ISDA regulations  
15 that hinder small/cottage farms from ease of  
16 production and sales direct to consumers.  
17

18 **134. Government Overreach**

19 We oppose federal and state government  
20 operating commercial businesses in competition with  
21 private enterprise.  
22

23 **135. Hazardous Waste**

24 We believe that each state should, to the extent  
25 possible, take the responsibility for treatment and  
26 disposal of hazardous waste generated in its state  
27 and that these waste products be disposed of in the  
28 most feasible manner that will not endanger life or  
29 resources.

30 We believe that hazardous material and  
31 hazardous waste should be kept separate in the law.

32 We support a statewide hazardous materials  
33 clean-up day.  
34

35 **136. Health Insurance**

36 **We support:**

- 37 1. Private optional health insurance;  
38 2. Legislation that permits, promotes, and/or assists:  
39 **2.1.** In individual health savings accounts with tax  
40 free withdrawals for all health insurance  
41 premiums;  
42 **2.2.** In free market solutions to health care costs  
43 and access;  
44 **2.3.** In free clinics funded by local  
45 community/faith-based organizations; and  
46 **2.4.** In development of Direct Primary Care in  
47 Idaho supporting the offering of wraparound  
48 health insurance policies.

1 **3. Health insurance as a risk management tool by**  
2 reducing and/or eliminating the number of  
3 mandated services.

4 **We oppose:**

5 **1. Any legislation to require employers to carry**  
6 health insurance on their employees whether  
7 they are seasonal or full-time.

8  
9 **137. Judicial Confirmation**

10 We support the repeal of the “Judicial  
11 Confirmation,” Title 7, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, for  
12 ordinary and necessary expenses.

13  
14 **138. Liability and Tort Claims**

15 We support current Idaho Statutes dealing with  
16 liability and tort claims and will resist any effort to  
17 weaken or erode them.

18  
19 **139. Marijuana**

20 We support marijuana staying on the class 1 list  
21 of banned controlled substances in the State of  
22 Idaho.

23  
24 **140. Medicaid**

25 **We support:**

- 26 **1. Repeal of Medicaid expansion;**  
27 **2. Informing the taxpayers each year of the cost of**  
28 Medicaid expansion and the effect on state  
29 budgets; and  
30 **3. Medicaid expansion being paid for with state of**  
31 Idaho general funds.

32 **We oppose:**

- 33 **1. County property taxes paying any portion of**  
34 Medicaid expansion.

35  
36 **141. Mental and Behavioral Health**

37 We support programs and initiatives that  
38 address mental and behavioral health issues that  
39 affect veterans, agricultural, and rural communities  
40 statewide.

41  
42 **142. One Senator Per County**

43 We support an amendment to change the Idaho  
44 Constitution to allow one senator per county.

## 143. Preserving Agriculture

We support legislation to protect agriculture land through voluntary agreements and programs based on incentives.

## 144. Property Rights/Eminent Domain

### We support:

1. Defining private property to include, but not be limited to, all land, crops, timber, water rights, mineral rights, all other appurtenances, and any other consideration associated with land ownership;
2. An Idaho constitutional amendment defining public use as found in the eminent domain doctrine to prohibit the condemnation of private property for economic development or any use by private parties. If private property is taken, compensation must be prompt, just and adequate;
3. Compensating landowners in the cases of partial taking of real property, when government-imposed regulations cause a loss in value of private property. Landowners or tenants shall not be held liable for any damages incurred as a result of the condemnation. Entities condemning property shall assume liability for any damages incurred by landowners;
4. The federal and state "takings" law in support of the U.S. Constitution, Article V; and
5. Amending the State Building Code to prevent infringement on private property rights through excessive permit requirements.

### We oppose:

1. Landowners having lands adjacent to federal and/or state lands being forced to allow new easements across their land for public access to federal and state lands. The taking of property or easements should be permitted only when there is eminent domain;
2. The use of eminent domain for recreational purposes, for private economic development, or to expand the land holding of wildlife agencies;
3. Any infringement of private property rights caused by regulations of rivers and dams for endangered species;
4. Infringement on private property rights caused by highway districts and transportation departments; and

1 **5. Governmental taking of private property rights by**  
2 restriction of use without just and due  
3 compensation.  
4

### 5 **145. Proprietary Information**

6 We oppose laws requiring insurance companies  
7 or other private business entities to provide  
8 proprietary information to state or federal agencies.  
9

### 10 **146. Public Employees Bargaining**

11 We believe that public employees, when  
12 negotiating contracts, should be separate entities in  
13 themselves, and by statute not allowed to delegate  
14 or reassign their negotiating rights to professional  
15 negotiating forces.  
16

### 17 **147. Regulation Reform**

#### 18 **We support:**

- 19 1. Complete review of existing regulations to  
20 determine their effectiveness and appropriateness  
21 prior to assigning more restrictive regulations; and
- 22 2. Peer review of the existing regulations to  
23 determine their potential to mitigate the problems  
24 they address.  
25

### 26 **148. Regulatory Fines**

27 The remedy for any violation of federal and state  
28 agency rules should be to fix the problem rather than  
29 to pay fines unless the violation rises to the level of a  
30 felony.  
31

### 32 **149. Rights-of-Way**

33 Any party who controls or obtains title to a right-  
34 of-way must be responsible for maintaining fences,  
35 drainage systems, all field and road crossings,  
36 controlling noxious weeds, and any other agreement  
37 that might have been in existence on any such  
38 acquired rights-of-way before the corridor changed  
39 management.  
40

#### 40 **We Support:**

- 41 1. Access to or through federal lands using RS2477  
42 (federally granted rights-of-way);
- 43 2. Allowing county commissioners the ability to  
44 determine the validity of an RS2477 claim, the right  
45 to move an RS2477 when it occurs on private land  
46 and the ability to temporarily close an RS2477 for  
47 resource reasons. To prevent the misuse of

- 1 RS2477 claims, we recognize the superiority of a  
2 property's title over RS2477 claims; and  
3 **3.** Enactment of legislation to require that adjacent  
4 landowners be given priority to purchase at fair  
5 market value lands that have been vacated by  
6 railways, power companies, roadways, etc.

7 **We oppose:**

- 8 **1.** Committing easement rights-of-way obtained by  
9 public or private sectors to any new or additional  
10 purpose, either during their original usage or after  
11 abandonment, without consent of the owner of the  
12 land underlying the easement. Upon abandonment  
13 of railway or utility rights-of-way or leases, all  
14 property and rights associated with such rights-of-  
15 way or leases should revert to the current owner of  
16 the original tract; and  
17 **2.** The use of RS2477 as a tool for the taking of  
18 private property without just compensation as  
19 prescribed in the Constitution.  
20

21 **150. Right to Bear Arms**

22 We oppose any abridgment of the Second  
23 Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which protects  
24 the right to keep and bear arms.

25 We support current law that allows law-abiding  
26 citizens the right to bear arms and be free from legal  
27 jeopardy when protecting themselves, their families,  
28 and their property.

29 We oppose the retaining of personal records  
30 collected by the FBI as a result of firearms purchase  
31 background checks.

32 We support expanding reciprocity with other  
33 states for concealed carry permits.  
34

35 **151. Road Closures**

36 We oppose the permanent closure of any  
37 existing public roads.

38 When any government entity closes a road,  
39 agricultural, timber, and mineral production and  
40 transportation should be exempted from the closure.  
41

42 **152. Roads on State Endowment Lands**

43 We support the Idaho Department of Lands  
44 hiring or contracting a transportation planner to  
45 organize road infrastructure on endowment lands.



1 **153. State Agencies**

2 **We support:**

- 3 1. The Soil Conservation Commission or successor  
4 entity advising and aiding local Soil Conservation  
5 Districts by providing technical support and  
6 funding at the statutory level; and  
7 2. Legislation to require that government rules and  
8 regulations, wherever applicable, be based upon  
9 supportive disciplinary peer reviewed scientific  
10 data, balanced with economic feasibility, and that  
11 wherever policies, rules or regulations do not meet  
12 this standard the responsible individual and/or  
13 individuals can be held liable.  
14

15 **154. State Hatch Act**

16 We favor restoring the State Hatch Act, 67-5311  
17 Limitation of Political Activity, to its original form and  
18 content.  
19

20 **155. State Historic Preservation Office**

21 We oppose the expansion of the authority of the  
22 SHPO and oppose any state funding.  
23

24 **156. State Legal Reform**

25 **We Support:**

- 26 1. Reform of the state's civil justice system, which  
27 would cure or substantially solve many of the  
28 problems farmers face with hostile, harassing legal  
29 services lawsuits. Any person or organization that  
30 sues to prevent livestock operation siting, or the  
31 use of agriculture or resource management  
32 practices, should be required to post a bond in a  
33 reasonable amount, which will be forfeited to the  
34 defendant to help defray their costs in the event  
35 that the suit is unsuccessful;  
36 2. Legislation that would require any entity bringing  
37 such lawsuits to post substantial bonds based on  
38 the potential harm of the lawsuit. Individuals who  
39 file complaints against an agricultural operation and  
40 request an investigation must pay a fee to cover  
41 administration costs. Complete names, addresses,  
42 and phone numbers are required on each  
43 complaint;  
44 3. Legislation to elect district judges when  
45 appointments are made within one year of the next  
46 election;  
47 4. Entities from outside the jurisdiction of taxing  
48 districts that file lawsuits against public entities  
49 should be required to pay all legal expenses;

- 1 5. Legislation to amend Idaho state statutes to ensure  
2 that justice and equity prevail in the awarding of  
3 attorney fees;
- 4 6. Idaho courts using only the United States and  
5 Idaho laws in the court system;
- 6 7. As a matter of equity, when a private party must act  
7 in the place of the Attorney General to enforce and  
8 protect the Idaho Constitution and statutes, the  
9 Idaho Legislature must reimburse the party for all  
10 reasonable attorney fees and costs if the courts fail  
11 to do so; and
- 12 8. Requiring judges to inform jurors of the legality of  
13 jury nullification.  
14

## 15 **157. States' Rights and Sovereignty**

16 We support a law stating that Idaho and all  
17 political subdivisions of the state are prohibited from  
18 using any personnel or financial resources to  
19 enforce, administer, or cooperate with an executive  
20 order issued by the president of the United States  
21 that violates the constitutional provisions for making,  
22 altering, or abolishing laws or in any other way  
23 violates individual or state rights.  
24

## 25 **158. Transportation**

### 26 **We support:**

- 27 1. Continuation of independent road districts without  
28 oversight by county commissioners;
- 29 2. Increases in gross weights with axle weights non-  
30 changing;
- 31 3. The continued use of long combination vehicles  
32 (LCVs);
- 33 4. The Idaho Transportation Department policy of  
34 issuing oversize load permits for Idaho public  
35 roads;
- 36 5. The continued improvement of Idaho's agricultural  
37 roadways;
- 38 6. Accountability of highway transportation  
39 department's engineers for the cost over-runs  
40 and/or miscalculations for wrongful designs of  
41 highway projects;
- 42 7. Increasing permit fees on loads exceeding 200,000  
43 GVW to be comparable with fees in surrounding  
44 states;
- 45 8. ITD thoroughly analyzing all projects and  
46 processes to provide the greatest benefit for each  
47 dollar spent;
- 48 9. Expenses for environmental studies and the  
49 expenses required to meet the mandated

- 1 environmental standards being calculated and  
2 tabulated on an environmental budget and not  
3 included in the Highway Construction and  
4 Maintenance budget;
- 5 **10.** Construction and/or improvement of a North-  
6 South Highway to the Canadian border;
- 7 **11.** Port districts in Idaho that help move agricultural  
8 commodities;
- 9 **12.** Access of agricultural implements of husbandry  
10 and vehicles to any and all local, county and state  
11 roads/highways in Idaho, and oppose the  
12 imposition of any minimum speed requirements;
- 13 **13.** Alternative solutions to wildlife overpasses;
- 14 **14.** The Idaho Transportation Department allowing  
15 axle weight limit violations for livestock and  
16 commodity haulers to be waived as long as the  
17 truck's gross weight is less than or equal to the  
18 maximum weight-limit;
- 19 **15.** 129,000 GVW limits on all highways within the  
20 state that can accommodate the weight;
- 21 **16.** 115 feet vehicle lengths when the highways can  
22 accommodate the length;
- 23 **17.** Universal off-track standards for highways within  
24 Idaho;
- 25 **18.** Increases in automobile liability minimums to a  
26 level to cover reasonable medical and  
27 replacement costs;
- 28 **19.** Stricter penalties for drivers of vehicles without  
29 insurance; and
- 30 **20.** Ag equipment with legal signage having the right  
31 of way. When motorists are approaching  
32 agriculture equipment, they must yield the right of  
33 way similar to emergency vehicles.

34 **We oppose:**

- 35 1. The removal of the Port of Entry system from the  
36 Department of Transportation.

37  
38 **159. Trespass**

39 **We support:**

- 40 1. Landowners retaining the right to refuse access  
41 within the current law;
- 42 2. Reasonable provisions for livestock owners to  
43 retrieve stray livestock from private land;
- 44 3. Mandatory public education regarding current  
45 trespass laws and private property rights through  
46 the hunter education program, the IDFG hunting  
47 regulations and maps, and online map products,  
48 including rules pertaining to hunting on lands  
49 under tribal jurisdiction. It is the individuals'

1 responsibility to know where they can legally  
2 recreate; and

- 3 **4.** Idaho revising state law or the Idaho Constitution to  
4 reject the open-field doctrine by making it unlawful  
5 for any person, including any state or federal  
6 agency representatives, to enter private property  
7 without the permission of the owner or authorized  
8 agent, or a warrant.

9  
10 **160. Tribal Jurisdiction on Reservations**

11 We support all residents and landowners  
12 sharing equally in funding county and city fees for  
13 police, fire, EMS, roads, and sanitation within tribal  
14 reservation boundaries.

15 We oppose any act by the State of Idaho to  
16 return to the federal government any jurisdiction  
17 acquired over Indian tribes under Federal Public  
18 Law 280.

19  
20 **161. Unfunded Mandates**

21 All new laws passed by the legislature that put  
22 financial burdens on the counties or cities should be  
23 funded by the state.

24  
25 **162. Voting Records**

26 We support the Idaho legislature creating  
27 and maintaining a web-based searchable voting  
28 record database available to all registered voters  
29 detailing all votes made during the legislative  
30 session.

31  
32 **163. Welfare Reform**

33 Believing that all people should productively  
34 engage in providing for their own sustainability, we  
35 support the reduction of welfare in Idaho replacing it  
36 with work programs for those who are able.

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### Clarification of Separation

Policies found in the IFBF Policy Book are under the purview of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation. Policies result from grassroots processes where members propose, debate, and vote to add, delete, and modify policies in the policy book annually.

All members are entitled to share their opinions and are encouraged to join with their local County Farm Bureau organizations as part of this grassroots process.

The Idaho Farm Bureau Federation is solely responsible for these policies. The Farm Bureau Insurance Company (FBIC) of Idaho is a separate entity and does not contribute to the policies or direction of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation. All inquiries regarding IFBF policy should be directed to the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation.

# NOTES

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# NOTES

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David Philips  
25033 Highway 93  
Challis, ID 83226  
208-589-8987

### **JEFFERSON**

Alan Clark  
3601 E 800 N  
Menan, ID 83434  
208-317-8560

### **LOST RIVERS**

Kelsey Broadie  
3340 W 3700 N  
Moore, ID 83255  
208-313-4392

### **TETON**

John Bevan  
6047 W 4000 N  
Tetonia, ID 83452  
208-351-3167



## DISTRICT III

### **BLAINE-CAMAS**

Clayton Mecham  
20458 N. Main St.  
Carey, ID 83320  
208-360-0433

### **GOODING-LINCOLN**

Phil Gossi  
PO BOX 664  
Hagerman, ID 83332  
208-539-6611

### **MINIDOKA**

Greg Walton  
748 West 600 North  
Paul, ID 83347  
208-670-4365

### **CASSIA**

Paul Marchant  
2000 S 50 E  
Oakley, ID 83346  
208-862-9235

### **JEROME**

Amy Mitchell  
307 S 35 W  
Jerome, ID 83338  
208-860-9635

### **TWIN FALLS**

Debra Easterday Reeves  
3654 N 1300 E  
Buhl, ID 83316  
208-948-5314

## DISTRICT IV

### **ADA**

Neil Durrant  
4000 W Hubbard Rd  
Kuna, ID 83634  
208-941-3239

### **ELMORE**

Nick Blanksma  
PO BOX 164  
Hammett, ID 83627  
208-590-1303

### **OWYHEE**

Hayzen Corder  
540 Morning Dove Way  
Marsing, ID 83639  
208-576-0082

### **VALLEY-ADAMS**

Gordon Cruickshank  
PO Box 133  
McCall, ID 83638  
208-634-6874

### **CANYON**

Bobbi Bicandi  
23955 Wagner Rd  
Caldwell, ID 83607  
208-899-7223

### **GEM**

Clint Rohrbacher  
4000 Brooklyn Ln  
Emmett, ID 83617  
208-365-1740

### **PAYETTE**

Carl Hayes  
3601 Elgin Rd  
New Plymouth, ID 83655  
208-810-5643

### **WASHINGTON**

Tristan Winegar  
732 Olds Ferry Rd  
Weiser, ID 83672  
208-550-0985

## **DISTRICT V**

### **BENEWAH**

Kylie Daman  
375380 Hwy 95  
Desmet, ID 83824  
509-919-6238

### **BOUNDARY**

John Kellogg  
209 Deer Park Rd  
Bonners Ferry, ID 83805  
208-290-3735

### **IDAHO**

Eric Forsman  
502 Power Line Rd  
Grangeville, ID 83530  
208-451-4273

### **LATAH**

Andrew Saralecos  
319 W Walnut St.  
Genesse, ID 83832  
208-874-3374

### **BONNER**

Dan Elliott  
4857 Dufort Rd  
Sagle, ID 83860  
208-660-0493

### **CLEARWATER-LEWIS**

Sheila Hasselstrom  
PO Box 277  
Winchester, ID 83555  
208-791-4915

### **KOOTENAI-SHOSHONE**

Joe Dobson  
PO Box 2139  
Hayden, ID 83835  
208-661-0650

### **NEZ PERCE**

Dale Wolff  
31996 Vincent Rd  
Kendrick, ID 83537  
208-791-1660

## **Mission Statement:**

Idaho Farm Bureau  
empowers Idaho agriculture.

## **Vision Statement:**

For all to recognize and respect Idaho  
agriculture as essential.





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